

Republican Valley Library System



VALLEYTALK

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We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
all contributions.

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Beth Falla
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Mo Khamouna
Mary Nelson
Sylvia Person
Nancy Sherwood
Dana Wade

Featured Librarian:

June Stratman

School Librarian Wilcox-Hildreth Public School

June Stratman has a trip planned and she is VERY excited. As a matter of fact, the last two times I talked to her, she was in another sphere when she was telling me about her trip this summer. June has two sisters, and this summer the three sisters are taking a trip together, heading to West Virginia to do the ancestor tour, research in cemeteries, do genealogy exploration and just have a great time. Since her family goes back to the Mayflower era, we talked about the audiobook *A Mercy*, by Toni Morrison, which I told her would set the tone for their trip. I checked out our copy, told her to listen to the author interview first, and decided I am even more jealous that June has two sisters than I am about their trip together. June has an identical twin sister named Joan who is a School Librarian at Johnson County Central in Tecumseh. June was the School Librarian first, but her sister soon followed. Now people come up to June and say, "didn't I see you" at some event, but sometimes, it was her sister.

June started teaching Home Economics at Hildreth Public School in 1981 and received her Media Endorsement from UNK in 1987. Hildreth consolidated in 2002 with Wilcox so now June is the School Librarian in both Wilcox and Hildreth and teaches some Family and Consumer Science classes in Middle School. Next year,



June will teach Study Skills in 5th and 6th grade 3 times a week, FCS for 7th and 8th grade daily, and meet with each elementary class weekly, as well as, run the library in two buildings (mornings in Wilcox, afternoons in Hildreth).

We talked about changes in libraries in the past 20 years. When June attended UNK, John Courtney was the department chair and taught most of the classes. She said she started cataloging on an Apple II GS with a card program and a dot matrix printer. Ahh, the good old days! Now she uses Alexandria to catalog and hauls books from both libraries for the students.

All the students at Wilcox/Hildreth from 5th grade to 12th have their own Mac Laptops. Computers have been a wonderful thing for students. Some students have lost their computer privileges because of internet violations, but in general, giving each student a laptop has been a very winning experience for everyone involved.

Continued from page 1


Fifth graders cannot take the laptops home and junior high students take them home occasionally, but high school students take computers home and love the opportunity. Wilcox/Hildreth was one of the early adopters to give individual computers to students as students have had laptops since 2004 so the schools have had several years to evaluate the usage and management as well as educational value of the laptops and have found one computer for each student a positive educational experience.



Things have changed in Wilcox/Hildreth as they have in all small schools across Nebraska. Families lead different lives than they did 20 years ago. Extended families rarely exist, families are much more mobile, and often parents work in other communities so students have to be self-sufficient. Having a small student body allows students to develop a strong work ethic and gives teachers the ability to have a personal touch when working with students. June's motto is to "Be flexible".

June has two children, a son who lives in the area and a daughter who is a junior at Midland Lutheran in Fremont majoring in Business. Her husband raises cattle and works at a bank in Minden. June says she would really like to get her MLS and when her daughter graduates, she is going to seriously consider the idea.

June sent me an e-mail after I left to say, scrapbooking led her to the family history project and she loves ancestry.com and Heritage Quest from NebraskaAccess. I e-mailed back to say, I really bet we could have guessed that! I hope June and her sisters have an "out-of-this world" trek across the U.S. this summer.

By *Sherry Houston* 

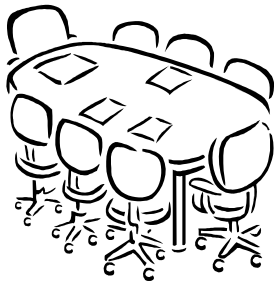
2010-2011 RVLS Board Meetings

President -Judy Grandstaff
Vice-President -Vicki Casper
Secretary -Suzann Christensen

Members: Tony Anderson, Vicki Casper, Beth Falla,
 Jane Hilton, Terri Johnson, Mo Khamouna
 Mary Nelson, Sylvia Person,
 Nancy Sherwood, and Dana Wade

All meetings begin at 10 am.

Your attendance is encouraged and welcomed!



September 10, 2010	Auld Public Library, Red Cloud, NE
November 5, 2010	Mary Lanning Hospital Library, Hastings, NE
January 7, 2011	Franklin Public Library, Franklin, NE
March 4, 2011	On-Line Meeting
June 3, 2011	Annual Meeting, (location to be announced)



RVLS NEWS

**RVLS has a NEW
website:**

libraries.ne.gov/rvls

Welcome Jody.

Jody Crocker is the new director at McCook Public Library. Jody has been the Children's Librarian at McCook Public and did a wonderful job doing the training for Summer Reading the last two years. RVLS is thrilled to have you as a new director in the System.

Retiring from RVLS

Linda Widick is retiring from Maywood Public Schools. I have enjoyed more than one lunch and conversation with Linda. We are very happy for you and hope you enjoy your retirement and travel, Linda.

Leanna Sackett is retiring from Cambridge Public Schools. Margo Kent from Southwest Middle School will take her place. Both Leanna and her husband are retiring this year so they can travel and enjoy life. Best of luck to you, both.

Keith Saathoff retired in May from North Platte Community College. Keith has been with the college for many years and has sold his North Platte home and has moved to Lincoln perhaps to enjoy attending events at the new stadium downtown. It sounds fun to me! Happy Retirement, Keith.



Hastings College Perkins Library

celebrated National Library Week (April 11-17) with a photo contest and an April 13th reception at the library, complete with lemonade and homemade treats.

Faculty, staff and students were invited to submit snapshots for either/both of two categories: 1. How You Thrive @ Perkins Library AND/OR 2. Signs of Spring around HC. The winners of the photo contest were announced at the reception, with "LibraryMayhem" by Michael Fahrenbruch (pictured) taking first place in



the "How You Thrive @ Perkins Library" category and Anna Mullen's "God Had No Reason for Putting Stingers on Bees" taking first in the "Signs of Spring around HC" category. All participants won spring-y prizes, such as sidewalk chalk, spiral lollipops, squirt guns or bubbles.

submitted by Susan Franklin

Ellison on the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

June 1st, 2010—Auld Public Library, Red Cloud, NE

August 1, 2010—Red Cloud Public School, Red Cloud, NE

September 1, 2010—Hastings Middle School, Hastings, NE

October 1, 2010—Sutton Elementary School, Sutton, NE

November 1, 2010—Southern Valley Public Schools Oxford, NE

December 1, 2010 — Available

January 1, 2011— Available.

If you would like to schedule the Ellison for your facility, please e-mail us at:

rvlsasst@inebraska.com or rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

Mo Khamouna, Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture, has been selected for **Outstanding Science Librarian**. He has been active in developing the library facilities for NSTA and has turned the facility into a resource for the campus and surrounding area.

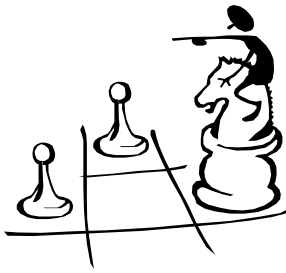
Congratulations Mo...a well deserved award!

It's Your Move

Small Libraries: Libri Foundation Accepting Applications for Books for Children Program, Deadline Aug. 15

The [Libri Foundation](http://www.librifoundation.org/) is a nationwide non-profit organization that donates new, quality hardcover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its Books for Children program.

Only libraries within the fifty states are eligible to apply. Libraries are qualified on an individual basis. In general, county libraries should serve a population under 16,000, and town libraries should serve a population under 10,000 (usually under 5,000). Libraries should be in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and an active children's department. "Rural" is usually considered to be at least thirty miles from a city with a population over 40,000.



Applications are accepted from independent libraries as well as libraries that are part of a county, regional, or cooperative library system. A library system may also apply if all the libraries in the system meet the eligibility requirements. Applications are accepted from school libraries only if they also serve as the public library (i.e., it is open to everyone in the community, has some summer hours, and there is no public library in town).

Town libraries with total operating budgets over \$150,000 and county libraries with total operating budgets over \$350,000 are rarely given grants. The average total operating budget of a Books for Children grant recipient is less than \$40,000.

Complete program guidelines are available at the Libri Foundation Web site. <http://www.librifoundation.org/>

Many of you are participating in **One Book, One Nebraska** (Wright Morris's *The Home Place*) this year.

A cousin of Wright Morris's owns and lives on the "home place" near Norfolk. Her name is Phyllis McCain. Phyllis came to our book discussion group for *The Home Place*. She brought many interesting family photos and artifacts and shared some great stories with us about Wright Morris and her family--Uncle Harry and Aunt Clara were Phyllis's grandparents.

She answered questions and was absolutely delightful. She said she is willing to visit with other groups that are discussing *The Home Place* this year and asked if I would "get the word out."

You can contact Phyllis at: Phyllis McCain, 4300 W. South Airport Road, Norfolk, NE

RVLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year

All member libraries eligible

Name _____

Library _____

Event _____

Date of event _____

Scholarship requested for _____ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested _____

Other information:



Send to: Republican Valley Library System
2727 W. 2nd Street # 233
Hastings, NE 68901



On the Bookshelf



The following audiobooks have recently been added to the RVLS Collection:

- **61 Hours** by Child, Lee
- **The Girl Who Fell From the Sky** by Durrow, Heidi W.
- **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** by Larsson, Stieg
- **Heart of the Matter** by Giffin, Emily
- **Shanghai Girls** by See, Lisa
- **Shutter Island** by Lehane, Dennis
- **Winter Garden** by Bainbridge, Beryl

New to the Professional Collection

- ***Information Literacy Education: A National Overview***

A complete listing of our available materials is on our web page nlc.state.ne.us/system/republican under **Services**



The Nebraska Center for the Book invites recommendations for the **2011 One Book One Nebraska** book selection. The Nebraska Center for the Book will consider books written by a Nebraska author (living or dead/with current or former residence in the state), or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. Books should have a broad appeal to readers across Nebraska and lend well to group book discussion. Books may be fiction, non-fiction, biography, memoir or poetry. They should be in print and readily available. The Center for the Book strongly suggests that anyone who nominates a text should have read it.

Book recommendations should be sent via e-mail to nlc.ask@nebraska.gov by **July 26, 2010**. Recommendations may also be sent via the US Postal Service to The Nebraska Center for the Book One Book One Nebraska, c/o Nebraska Library Commission Reference Services, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

The Nebraska Center for the Book will announce the **2011 One Book One Nebraska** choice at the Nebraska Center for the Book Celebration, including 2010 One Book One Nebraska Program, Awards Ceremony and Annual Meeting on **November 6, 2010**.

For information about **One Book One Nebraska**, including current and previous book selections, see <http://www.onebookonenebraska.org> or join us on Facebook.com, search One Book One Nebraska.

Meridian, Northeast, Panhandle and Republican Valley Library Systems Present:

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books

Presenter: **Carole Fiore**

September 14th or 15th, 2010

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



September 14th
Aurora Public Library
1603 "L" Street
Aurora NE

OR

\$20 per person
(includes lunch)

September 15th
Ole's Big Game Steakhouse &
Lounge
123 North Oak
Paxton NE

Carole D. Fiore holds a BS in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Temple University and an MS in Library Science from Drexel University. Carole was a public library consultant with the State Library and Archives of Florida where she directed the award winning Florida Library Youth Program (FLYP). She also served as the Library Services and Technology Act Grant Coordinator and liaison consultant to libraries and library systems in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

Carole will teach you how to:

- Increase your knowledge and skill level in connecting boys and books.
- How to evaluate and purchase materials attractive to boys.
- Types of activities that will attract boys to libraries and reading
- Understand boy's developmental progression.

This program is sponsored in part by the Nebraska Library Commission and funded in part with state funds allocated through the Nebraska Legislature

Bridging the Gender Gap: Enticing Boys to Books

Registration

Circle one: **Aurora** or **Paxton**

Name: _____

Library: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail \$20.00 check and registration by **September 1, 2010** to:

Republican Valley Library System

2727 W. Second Street # 233

Hastings, NE 68901-4684

800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975

E-mail: rvtlsasst@inebraska.com

Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting
June 4, 2010 9:30 a.m.
North Platte Community Playhouse Fox Theater
301 East 5th Street North Platte NE

PRESENT: Tony Anderson, Vicki Casper, Suzann Christensen, Beth Falla, Judy Grandstaff, Jane Hilton, Terri Johnson, Mo Khamouna, Mary Nelson, Sylvia Person, Nancy Sherwood, Dana Wade

ALSO PRESENT: Sherry Houston (System Director), Kay Kloppenborg (Administrative Assistant), Rod Wagner (Nebraska Library Commission Representative), Wendy Faber, Claudette Wielechowski, Vicki Perrie, Terri Eberly, Keri and Katrina Anderson, Sharon Bohling, Lisa Fortkamp

SECRETARIAL THOUGHTS

I would like to take this moment to wax rhapsodic over Terri Johnson's culinary skills. Her homemade **everything** is divine, beginning with her cinnamon roll pastries and continuing through a wonderful luncheon prepared just for us.

THANK YOU, Terri (and **especially** thanks for making your Mississippi Cornbread Salad). I single-handedly finished off the second bowl. We thoroughly enjoyed the entire meal!

And thank **YOU**, Board Minutes Readers, for your kind words through the years. I know secretaries sometimes wonder if anyone reads what they write – and you guys actually **DO**. It's been an honor and a privilege to serve on the RVLS board and I'll miss it very much. Keep up the good work!

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL: President Judy Grandstaff (who was tired because she had to get up early to get to North Platte and could barely talk between bouts of coughing) called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m. Roll call was taken, introductions were made, and guests were welcomed. Special recognition was made for Rod Wagner, Distinguished NLC Representative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (March 5, 2010): A motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2010 meeting was made by Mary Nelson and seconded by Terri Johnson. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you notes were shared from scholarship and grant recipients and from Hastings High School students who listened to Sherry's job description presentation.

FINANCIAL REPORT: We have expended 81% of our budget to date. We will continue to be conservative and frugal with expenses while striving to meet RVLS goals. The grant agreement between RVLS and NLC through June 30, 2011 was shared with the board. RVLS funding for next year is \$103,094 and includes a 5% decrease. Rod shared information about funding decreases with the board. Regional systems may request supplemental grants (with certain stipulations) from NLC. We discussed the RVLS vehicle replacement; our best trade-in value is now while the vehicle has 63,000 miles. Trading for a new vehicle would cost \$10 - \$12,000. Rod indicated that supplemental monies for system vehicles might be funded from other accounts. *[At this point, Beth dropped her pen on the floor for the third time. Not that I'm easily distracted . . .]* The financial reports were filed for audit.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (A detailed copy of the administrator's report is in each board member's packet.) Sherry has been attending lots of meetings and has been busy with outreach activities and trainings with RVLS librarians.

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting Sites: A handout of the amended meeting sites was distributed. (It's the fuschia one. Hard to miss.)

Workshops: Sherry highlighted the April 8 UNK meeting and the May 19 AWE workshop. She promoted Carol Fiore's Boys and Books workshops which will take place on September 14 and 15, and the NLA/NEMA pre-conference program with the Black Belt Librarian. NLA/NEMA will be in Grand Island this year; we need to take advantage of the outstate location. Basic Skills classes will be on Public Library Administration and are scheduled for November. Sherry shared a cost analysis with the board. If we went from six newsletters to four each year, it would save approximately \$1,000 in printing costs. A motion was made by Terri Johnson and seconded by Tony Anderson to go to a quarterly newsletter publishing schedule for a year and then reassess. Motion carried.

Continued on Page 8

RVLS Board Meeting Minutes—continued from Page 7

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter: Discussion was held about whether to offer the newsletter in print, online, or a combination of the two. Sherry shared a cost analysis with the board. If we went from six newsletters to four each year, it would save approximately \$1,000 in printing costs. A motion was made by Terri Johnson and seconded by Tony Anderson to go to a quarterly newsletter publishing schedule for a year and then reassess. Motion carried.

Word Press Training: NLC (and Michael Sauers) will serve as the host site and technical support for RVLS libraries that use Word Press as their home page/blog site. In order to participate, librarians must agree to attend training and post blogs at least once each week. RVLS training will be August 2 at Hastings College. Training will be limited to ten libraries. To view the RVLS Word Press site: <http://libraries.ne.gov/rvls>

Budget: An explanation of the proposed 2010-2011 budget was given by Judy. RVLS's income is derived from three sources: interest income from savings, regular checking account (including carryover monies), and NLC system funding. Expenses (and accompanying increases or decreases) were highlighted and questions answered by Sherry and Judy. A motion was made by Nancy Sherwood and seconded by Dana Wade to approve the proposed 2010-2011 budget and present it to the full membership at the Annual Meeting. Motion carried, roll call vote. (Voting YES: Anderson, Casper, Christensen, Falla, Grandstaff, Hilton, Johnson, Khamouna, Nelson, Person, Sherwood, Wade)

FUNDRAISER INFORMATION: Nancy Sherwood shared information from a successful fundraiser; cookbook sales (**Willa Cather's Tables: The Cather Foundation Cookbook**) and fun-run t-shirts. Information for ordering the cookbook may be found online: <http://www.willacather.org/>

NLC COMMISSIONER REPORT (Steve Batty): No report (Steve is in Colorado)

NLC REPRESENTATIVE REPORT (Rod Wagner): Rod shared information from Richard Miller's NLC Report to Systems June 2010 (*thank you, Richard!*). Highlighted were Student Internship Grants, Public Library Accreditation Guidelines, NCompass Live Programs, Free Webinars, 2010 Nebraska Book Awards Program, and BTOP Grant.

WOW! WE'RE ALL PRESENT! Sherry took a moment to note that **ALL** board members were in attendance. Apparently this is uncommon for our group . . .

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.,

Suzann Christensen, Recording Secretary For The Last Time

New Faces of RVLS Board

New RVLS Board Members are Vicki Perrie, Director of Superior Public Library; Sky Seery, North Platte Public Library and Claudette Wielechowski, Adams Middle School, North Platte. We welcome these new board members. All three will be excellent additions to RVLS.



Vicki



Sky



Claudette

Editors Note: You can certainly tell one of these members is a repeat board member as a term with RVLS can be a mind altering experience!

Republican Valley Library System Annual Meeting
June 4, 2010 11:00 a.m.
North Platte Community Playhouse Fox Theater
301 East 5th Street North Platte, NE

Welcome/Call to Order/Introduction of Attendees: President Judy Grandstaff called the 2010 annual meeting of the general membership of the Republican Valley Library System to order at 11:10 a.m. with 37 persons in attendance. Introductions were made.

Minutes of the 2008-2009 Annual Meeting (Secretary Suzann Christensen): Following the reading of the minutes, they were approved as read.

Adoption of the 2010-2011 Budget: Judy Grandstaff presented the 2010-2011 budget as approved by the RVLS board and answered questions. A motion was made by Nancy Sherwood and seconded by Terri Johnson to adopt the budget as presented. Motion carried, 17-0.

Recognition of Outgoing Board Members: Terri Johnson, Suzann Christensen, and Judy Grandstaff were recognized by Sherry Houston for their years of service as board members and given tokens of appreciation.

Introduction of Board Nominees/Nominations From the Floor/ Election of New Board Members: A ballot with five names was distributed and nominees were introduced. There were no nominations from the floor. When the first ballot ended in a tie, a runoff balloting took place. The three new RVLS board members are Vicki Perrie, Claudette Wielechowski, and Sky Seery.

Administrator's Report: Sherry Houston shared highlights of the past year with her goal of visiting each RVLS library (which she very nearly achieved). She promoted upcoming workshops and RVLS activities. Sherry spoke of libraries as places where friends help friends through change and turmoil, and thanked the group for the last five years.

Other Business: Nancy Sherwood shared a successful fundraiser idea. Sherry Houston promoted Big READ audio guide kits which are free for the asking. The UNL Chapter of Sigma Xi, the science and engineering honorary society, honored Mo Khamouna, Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture, who was selected for Outstanding Science Librarian. He has been active in developing the library facilities for NSTA and has turned the facility into a resource for the campus and surrounding area.

Adjournment/Lunch: The meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m. Terri Johnson, RVLS board member, prepared a wonderful homemade luncheon for the group (including her incredible Mississippi Cornbread Salad). THANK YOU, Terri!

Nebraska Library Commission Report: Rod Wagner gave the group updates on the topics of Student Internship Grants, Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) Grant status, state funding concerns and its implications for libraries and regional systems, 2011-2013 biennium budget process, ALTAFF (The Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations) and the Trustees Academy, and seeking recommendations for 2011 One Book One Nebraska titles. Rod ended by thanking Sherry Houston (he said she's great to work with but we already knew that), the RVLS board and President Judy Grandstaff, and all those in attendance who serve the people of Nebraska.

Portrayal of Annie Cook: Carolyn Clark presented the group with her portrayal of Annie Cook. Carolyn's work is based on the book **Evil Obsession: The Annie Cook Story** by Nellie Irene Snyder Yost. If you haven't read the book, you should. It's creepy.

Tour of Golden Spike Tower: The group toured the Golden Spike Tower and learned much about railroads. (Secretary's note: If your tour guide is named Ken, you will not have to worry about lapses in conversation . . .)

Suzann Christensen, Recording Secretary

The 13th annual Database Roadshow has been scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- July 13 - University of Nebraska at Kearney
- July 14 - Mid-Plains Community College, McCook
- July 20 - ESU #3, Omaha
- July 22 - Wayne State College
- July 27 - Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff

August 3 - Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln

Note: A minimum of five registrations per workshop is required. If the minimum is not met, the workshop will be canceled.

To register for any of the Database Roadshows, go to the Nebraska Library Commission's [Training Portal](#) and search on *Roadshow*

2009-2010 Golden Sower Winners and Honor Books

This year's winners were selected by a record-breaking 70,009 readers across the great state of Nebraska.

Primary Winner

The Secret Science Project That Almost Ate the School by Judy Sierra

Primary Honor Books

Woollbur by Leslie Helakoski

Dogku by Andrew Clements



Intermediate Winner

Deep and Dark and Dangerous: A Ghost Story by Mary Downing Hahn

Intermediate Honor Books

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies

Young Adult Winner

Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata

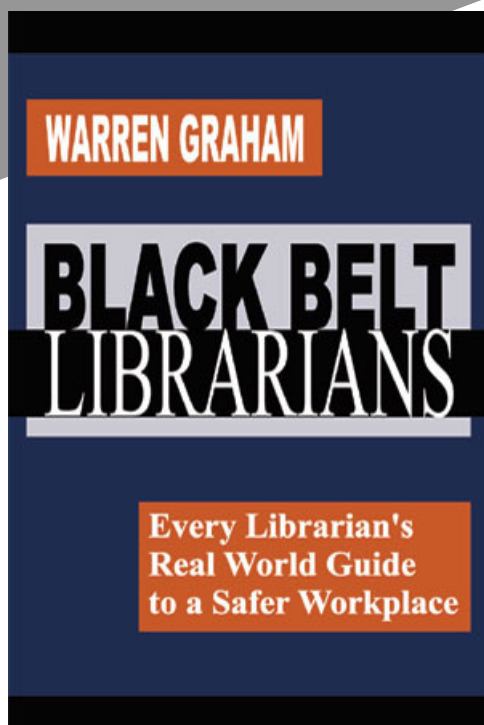
Young Adult Honor Books

The Rules of Survival by Nancy Werlin

Peak by Roland Smith

The winners have been posted on the Golden Sower web page:

<http://www.goldensower.org>



NLA/NEMA Conference

Pre Conference Workshop

October 13, 2010

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Midtown Holiday Inn

2503 S. Locust

Grand Island, NE 68803

Cost is \$20 (includes lunch)

6 Continuing Education Credits

**Sponsored by the Nebraska
Regional Library Systems**



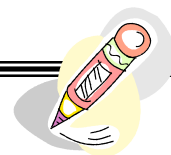
Warren Graham will discuss:

- Handling difficult customers for public service staff and managers
- Complete security staff training
- Analysis of existing procedures and recommendations for improvement
- Customized training for specific needs
- Self-defense tactics for front line staff

This program is made possible by the Nebraska Library Commission and funded in part with state funds allocated through the Nebraska Legislature.

Register at the NLA/NEMA Conference Website:

<http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2010>



Mark Your Calendar

- June 14, 15Heartland School Library Conference, Omaha
- July 14.....Database Workshop, McCook Community College
- August 2.....WordPress Training, Hastings
- September 14.....Carol Fiore— Boys and Books, Aurora
- September 15.....Carol Fiore—Boys and Books, Paxton
- October 13.....Black Belt Librarian, Pre-conference, Grand Island
- October 14, 15.....NLA/NEMA, Grand Island
- November 6Nebraska Center for the Books, Book Awards, Lincoln

This recipe is Terri Johnson's signature recipe. She served it among other delicious selections at the Annual Meeting this year.

Mississippi Cornbread Salad

1 pkg. Jiffy cornbread mix, prepared as package directs, baked and cooled

10 slices bacon, fried and crumbled

Shredded Cheddar Cheese

1 lb. can pinto beans, drained and rinsed

1 can mexi-corn, drained (regular corn can be substituted)

5 green onions, sliced (or about 1/2 cup chopped onion)

2 tomatoes, diced, drain away juice

1 green pepper, diced

Ranch Dressing (you won't need to use all of this in the recipe)

1 pkg. Hidden Valley dressing mix

1 cup sour cream

1 cup mayonnaise

(You can substitute bottled dressing but the thicker consistency keeps the salad from getting soggy—if you think the dressing is too thick to spread, thin with a little milk)

Crumble the cornbread, then layer half of each ingredient as follows: cornbread, bacon, cheese, beans and corn, fresh veggies, then a layer of dressing. Repeat the layers, finishing with dressing and top with additional shredded cheese. Chill until serving.

We hate to see you go...



Suzann Christensen, Hastings Middle School and RVLS Board Secretary is leaving RVLS Board this year. As Secretary, Suzann was funny, talented and efficient. We always knew the minutes would be ready before we even thought about them. You will be missed on the board Suzann. Thank you so much for your service to RVLS.

Judy Grandstaff, Director of Blue Hill Public Library, RVLS Board President and long time advocate for Library Systems will no longer be on the RVLS Board. Judy has been a terrific president and mentor and I will miss working with her as Board President. Thanks for all the many wonderful years of service.

Terri Johnson, North Platte Public Library has been on the RVLS Board for 6 years. Terri has only missed one meeting and that was to attend her son's wedding (a likely excuse). Thank you for your excellent service to RVLS and a double, quadruple thank you for catering the RVLS Annual Meeting. We are all raving about the food (see the recipe on page 12 for Terri's wonderful corn bread salad.)



Carolyn Clark from North Platte Public Library did an excellent program for the RVLS Annual meeting with her reenactment of Annie Cook, North Platte resident and character from the book *Evil Obsession* by Nellie Snyder Yost....and we think we have some immoral characters in the world today!

A New Opportunity to Create your own Website

Public Libraries currently without a Web site and open at least 15 hours a week in RVLS have a unique opportunity to create your own website using WordPress. The Nebraska Library Commission will host the site, give training and tech support. In return, each library will have to post to the blog once a week. RVLS has used this method to create their website and it is easy to use, and only a little painful. Michael Sauers gives outstanding tech support. The workshop will be August 2nd at Hastings College in the Computer Lab. This class will be limited to 10 participants. If you are interested in participating, e-mail or call rvlsadmin@inebraska.com or Michael Sauers at michael.sauers@nebraska.gov



Make a splash with Leap Books @ your library.

Tweens and teens win free books by answering the question “What comes next?”. See details at <http://www.leapbks.com/>

BOOKS FOR BABIES



Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role they play in the development of their children. Parents are presented with a Books for Babies kit containing a board book for baby, baby's first library card, and a variety of brochures with reading tips and early literacy information from nationally-recognized educational organizations. Kits are available in both English and Spanish with an optional bib.

By reading to their babies and by becoming regular library users themselves, parents help their babies develop language skills and start them on the path to success in reading and learning.

Organizations such as Friends of the Library groups, Women's Clubs, and Junior Leagues purchase Books for Babies packets. Groups often supplement the packets with information about local resources, including library locations and contact information as well as details about lapsit and preschool storyhours.

In partnership with **Nordstrom**, ALTAFF will award 20 grants of \$500 each to match \$1,075 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups, libraries and other nonprofit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF. The deadline for applications is **Sept. 15, 2010**

Differentiated Instruction: UNK's library can help

The College of Education's Department of Teacher Education has been looking at ways to strengthen teachers' skills in the area of differentiated instruction. How, they ask, can we graduate teachers who are able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of students, and provide instruction that accounts for different learning skills? In response to this interest, the library has been collecting activity guides and lesson planning resources to provide tools for identifying different methods of instruction for various subjects.

Looking for ways to address different learning styles and abilities to make your summer reading program more successful? Check out some of these titles:

In *How to Plan Differentiated Reading Instruction: Resources for Grades K-3* (2009), Sharon Walpole and Michael D. McKenna provide ideas for reading and group interactions that can improve phonological awareness, word recognition, fluency, and build vocabulary and comprehension. Book talks and activities related to particular titles are available through this text.

Read! Move! Learn! (2007) by Carol Totsky Hammett and Nicki Collins Geigert contains ideas for activities related to developing reading skills. Many stories are described and activities suggested (like singing, dancing and games that might help a reluctant reader to connect with the text using their natural learning strength).

Or, how about consulting *Lesson Design for Differentiated Instruction, Grades 4-9* (2009) by Kathy Tuchman Glass, for ideas about how to make instruction more accessible to all different types of styles of learners (for example, auditory, visual, tactile, or kinesthetic) and abilities (like verbal, logical, musical), using a wide variety of strategies.

And, of course, there are many, many more works available at the library related to teaching different types of people using lots of different strategies.

The University of Nebraska at Kearney's Calvin T. Ryan Library (2508 11th Avenue) welcomes all library users. Any Nebraska resident, 18 years or older, may apply for a special borrower card. Just fill out an application at the Circulation Desk and present a valid Nebraska photo ID. Community members are allowed to borrow five circulating items at a time. What circulates? Most books, books on tape, videos, CDs, and lots of other information resources!

Parking on a university campus is always a challenge! We can help to ease this difficulty by sending you a temporary parking permit, directions, and a campus map with the appropriate parking lots marked. To request a permit, please contact Jennifer Harvey (harveyjs@unk.edu; 308-865-8276). There is also street parking on the south side and east side of the campus, if you don't mind a little walk! Many of our resources can also be borrowed through your local library's interlibrary loan service.

We hope to see you soon!

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**“OPPORTUNITY is
missed by most
people because it
is dressed in over-
alls and looks like
work” - Thomas A. Edison**